

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115163

FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

FOLLOWING REPEAT MAPUTO 580 ACTION SECSTATE INFO

USUN NEW YORK DAR ES SALAAM LUSAKA MADRID LONDON

GABORONE CAPE TOWN PRETORIA JOHANNESBURG MAY 17, 1977

QTE C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0580

DEPARTMENT PASS TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S PARTY

FOR LAKE AND MCHENRY

FROM USDEL MAPUTO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SF WA US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG MEETS WITH SWAPO PRESIDENT

1. AMBASSADOR YOUNG, TOGETHER WITH AMBASSADOR DE PREE, MOOSE, MAYNES, PETTERSON AND PETREE HAD LUNCHEON MEETING MAY 17 WITH SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA AND THREE OTHER SWAPO OFFICIALS. MEETING TOOK PLACE AT AMBASSADOR DE PREE'S RESIDENCE.

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2. AMBASSADOR YOUNG OPENED THE DISCUSSION BY TELLING NUJOMA THAT THE INITIATIVE OF U.S. AND THE OTHER WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL WAS AIMED AT ACHIEVING A SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIA PROBLEM WHICH WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH SC RESOLUTION 385. HE SAID THAT IN WORKING TOWARD THIS END WE WANTED TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH

SWAPO. HE THEN BRIEFLY OUTLINED THE PURPOSE OF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S MEETING WITH VORSTER, AND POINTED OUT THAT THE U.S. WILL COME TO GRIPS WITH EACH OF THE THREE MAJOR PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, TREATING EACH ONE ON ITS OWN MERITS.

3. NUJOMA RESPONDED BY EXPRESSING HIS APPRECIATION TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR ITS SUPPORT AND HELP TO THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA. THE U.S. HAD A LONG HISTORY OF OPPOSITION TO SOUTH AFRICAN ANNEXATION OF NAMIBIA AND HAD SUPPORTED A NUMBER OF KEY UN RESOLUTIONS IN FAVOR OF NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE.

4. TURNING TO THE CAPE TOWN TALKS ON NAMIBIA, NUJOMA SAID, "WE APPRECIATE THE INITIATIVE TAKEN BY THE FIVE WESTERN POWERS. YOU HAVE CONVINCED THE VORSTER REGIME TO MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS; SWAPO APPRECIATES THIS." HOWEVER, SWAPO COMPLETELY DISAPPROVED OF THE FIVE ENVOYS GOING TO NAMIBIA. THIS WAS A VIOLATION OF SEVERAL UN RESOLUTIONS AND THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE WHICH ABROGATED SOUTH AFRICAN JURISDICTION OVER NAMIBIA.

5. NUJOMA SAID THAT CERTAIN CONDITIONS MUST BE MET IF THERE IS TO BE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE WESTERN FIVE WERE WORKING FOR A SOLUTION ALONG THE LINES OF 385. HOWEVER, "ELECTIONS CANNOT TAKE PLACE WITH 50,000 (SIC) SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS" ALREADY IN NAMIBIA, AND "DAILY REINFORCEMENTS" ADDING TO THE NUMBER. NOR COULD

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THERE BE ELECTIONS AS LONG AS REPRESSIVE LAWS LIKE THE TERRORISM ACT AND SUPPRESSION OF COMMUNISM ACT WERE APPLIED TO NAMIBIA. THE OTHER CONDITIONS WERE THOSE WHICH HE NOTED WHEN HE MET WITH THE CONTACT GROUP (MAPUTO 548):

- SOUTH AFRICA MUST RELEASE ALL NAMIBIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS.

- "VORSTER REGIME" MUST MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING THE WITHDRAWAL OF ITS MILITARY AND POLICE FORCES FROM NAMIBIA. WHEN AND HOW THE WITHDRAWAL WILL TAKE PLACE CAN BE A SUBJECT FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

- SWAPO MUST BE THE NEGOTIATOR FOR THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE. THE SAG AND THE UN WOULD BE THE OTHER PARTIES. NUJOMA SAID: "WE ARE AWARE THAT THERE ARE OTHER LEGITIMATE INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS IN NAMIBIA. BUT THERE ARE ALSO TRAITORS WHO HAVE SOLD OUT TO SOUTH AFRICA." THOSE IN NAMIBIA WHO WISH CAN "CROSS THE FLOOR AND COME IN WITH US; THEY WILL BE WELCOMED."

- THE UN SHOULD BE THE CONVENOR AND THE CHAIRMAN OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SETTLEMENT.

6. NUJOMA SAID THAT "ALL RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENTS" SHOULD WORK TOWARD THE PROCESS LEADING TO A SETTLEMENT; HOWEVER, SWAPO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO OPPOSE ANYTHING THAT HINDERS THAT PROCESS. RETURNING TO THE CAPE TOWN TALKS, HE CHARACTERIZED SOME ELEMENTS OF THE FIVE POWER INITIATIVE AS AMBIGUOUS. FOR EXAMPLE, IT WAS UNCLEAR AS TO WHO WOULD CONSTITUTE THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY. AFTER SEVERAL MEMBERS OF AMERICAN DELEGATION EXPLAINED THAT THEY TOO WERE ASKING THE SAME QUESTIONS, NUJOMA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE CAPE TOWN TALKS WERE ONLY THE BEGINNING AND THAT MUCH WORK REMAINED TO BE DONE.

7. AMBASSADOR YOUNG REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE OF STAYING IN CLOSE TOUCH. HE SAID WE COULD DO THIS THROUGH THE FIVE COUNTRIES' MISSIONS IN NEW YORK AND THE SWAPO REPRESENTATIVE THERE. THIS COULD ALSO BE DONE THROUGH OUR CONFIDENTIAL

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EMBASSIES IN LUSAKA AND THE SWAPO OFFICE IN THAT CITY.

8. FOLLOWING PRIVATE LUNCHEON CONVERSATION NUJOMA AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG MET WITH LARGE CONTINGENT OF U.S. PRESS ON STEPS AT RESIDENCE. YOUNG INTRODUCED NUJOMA WHO VIGOROUSLY STATED FAMILIAR SWAPO POSITION. HE THEN TOOK A FEW QUESTIONS, RESPONDING IN A RATHER RESTRAINED MANNER.

9. COMMENT: NOTHING MUCH NEW. NUJOMA'S LEGALISTIC DISAPPROVAL OF FIVE ENVOYS GOING TO NAMIBIA WAS A BIT PUZZLING. INTERESTINGLY, NUJOMA OFFERED A RATHER ELABORATE EXCUSE FOR STANDING UP MCHENRY IN DAR AND SEEMED SLIGHTLY DEFENSIVE ABOUT HIS ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO LEAVE BEFORE THE CONFERENCE IS OVER.
DE PREE UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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